

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An implant device delivery system for promoting bone growth comprising:

a dry covering formed comprised of a water absorbing gelatinizable material that becomes sticky and gelatinous upon contact with water; and

a bone growth promoting material selected from the group consisting of hydroxyapatite, beta-tricalcium phosphate, purified coral shell, freeze dried natural bone powder, freeze dried natural bone particles, demineralized natural bone powder, demineralized natural bone particles, demineralized natural bone shards, demineralized natural bone fragments, and combinations thereof; and contained within the covering.

wherein the dry covering forms an outer cover of the implant device so as to encapsulate the bone growth promoting material within an interior of the implant device.
2. (Currently Amended) An implant device delivery system as recited in claim 1, wherein the water absorbing gelatinizable material comprises at least one of gelatinizable gauze, oxidized cellulose, oxidized regenerated cellulose, and gelatinizable cat gut.
3. (Currently Amended) An implant device delivery system as recited in claim 1, wherein the water absorbing gelatinizable material is resorbable.
4. (Currently Amended) An implant device delivery system as recited in claim 1, wherein the water absorbing gelatinizable material is non-resorbable.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) An implant device delivery system as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivery system has an elongate sausage-like configuration.

7. (Currently Amended) An implant device ~~delivery system~~ as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivery system has a pillow like configuration.

8. (Currently Amended) An implant device ~~delivery system~~ as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivery system is stored within moisture-resistant packaging.

9. (Currently Amended) An implant device ~~delivery system~~ as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivery system further comprises an adhesive dispersed ~~within~~ with the bone growth promoting material.

10. (Currently Amended) An implant device ~~delivery system~~ as recited in claim 9, wherein the adhesive comprises at least one of fibrin powder and chopped adhesive gauze.

11. (Currently Amended and Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing the ~~delivery system~~ implant device for promoting bone growth according to claim 1, comprising:

forming a water absorbing gelatinizable material into a hollow tube or pouch;

inserting a bone growth promoting material into at least a portion of the tube or pouch;

closing one or more initially open ends of the tube or pouch to form the ~~delivery system~~ implant device for promoting bone growth.

12. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing as recited in claim 11, wherein the act of closing one or more ends of the tube or pouch comprises wet sealing and then drying the ends.

13. (Currently Amended and Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing as recited in claim 11, wherein the tube or pouch is divided into a plurality of individual sections that are separated and individually sealed so as to form a plurality of ~~delivery systems~~ implant devices from a single tube or pouch filled with the bone growth promoting material.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting bone growth, comprising:
providing the implant device delivery system recited in claim 1; and
placing the implant device delivery system adjacent to bone tissue to be augmented.
15. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the implant device delivery system is placed into a void or defect resulting from the removal of a tooth.
- 16-27. (Cancelled)
28. (New) An implant device for promoting bone growth in a patient, comprising:
a dry covering comprised of a water absorbing gelatinizable material that becomes sticky and gelatinous upon contact with water;
a bone growth promoting material in granule or powder form;
a thickener dispersed among the bone growth promoting material, the thickener comprising a material that forms a viscous gel or firm putty upon contact with water; and
wherein the dry covering forms an outer cover of the implant device so as to encapsulate the bone growth promoting material within an interior of the implant device.
29. (New) An implant device as recited in claim 28, wherein the water absorbing gelatinizable material of the cover is selected from the group consisting of gelatinizable gauze, oxidized cellulose, oxidized regenerated cellulose, and gelatinizable catgut.
30. (New) An implant device as recited in claim 28, wherein the thickener comprises at least one of gelatinizable gauze, oxidized cellulose, oxidized regenerated cellulose, chopped catgut, or powdered catgut.
31. (New) An implant device as recited in claim 28, wherein the thickener comprises a biocompatible gelatinous collagen material.

32. (New) An implant device as recited in claim 28, wherein the the bone growth promoting material comprises hydroxyapatite, beta-tricalcium phosphate, purified coral shell, natural bone, demineralized natural bone, or a combination thereof.

33. (New) An implant device as in recited in claim 28, wherein the cover is woven, knitted, or braided.